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## **Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant Approved For Gauley River PSD**

**Morgantown, WV – May 25, 2006:** State Director Robert M. Steptoe, III, today announced that **Rural Development** approved a Rural Utilities Programs Grant of \$146,000 for Gauley River Public Service District, Nicholas County, WV.

Rural Development funds will be used to relocate a section of waterline to avoid the landslide-prone area where the waterline currently exists.

"Recent flooding in Nicholas County has created an urgent need for this project. Rural Development will utilize its Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant (ECWAG) funds to help alleviate the problem for residents within the Smith Branch area of Fayette County," stated Steptoe.

Construction will consist of the installation of 1,200 feet of waterline within a more stable location.

Rural Development serves as the lead Federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through its rural housing programs, rural business programs, and rural utilities programs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Further information on USDA Rural Development may be obtained by visiting USDA's web site at <a href="http://www.rurdev.usda.gov">http://www.rurdev.usda.gov</a>. In West Virginia, call 1-800-295-8228 to be put in touch with the appropriate personnel serving your county. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202.720.2600 (voice and TDD).

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